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COUNTRY East Germany REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC Erfurt-Bindersleben Airfield

EVALUATION 25X1 [REDACTED] PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED] 25X1

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED [REDACTED] 25X1

REFERENCES [REDACTED]

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REMARKS [REDACTED]

1. The following observations were made at Erfurt-Bindersleben airfield between 22 June and 1 August 1953:
- 25X1 22 June. Transport planes and cargo gliders landed at the field and 150 to 200 men were unloaded. The aircraft took off around evening.
- 23 to 27 June. Four MiG-15s were repeatedly observed south of the flight control station.¹
- 28 June. Nine transport type aircraft landed at the field and took off at 1:25 p.m. At about 6 p.m., several twin-engine aircraft, each towing a cargo glider with a line, about 75 meters long, took off. At the same time, two MiG-15s were observed aloft.²
- 22 to 26 June. No construction work was observed at the field. After 27 June, construction activity became rather intensive.
- 22 to 30 July. No air activity was observed at the field.
- 25X1 31 July. Three single-engine aircraft flew over Erfurt between 9:15 a.m. and 10 a.m. and again between 2 p.m. and 2:25 p.m. Two MiG-15s [REDACTED]
- 25X1 practiced formation flying between 4:20 p.m. and 4:55 p.m.
- 1 August. Two MiG-15s [REDACTED] took off.¹ Three [REDACTED] 25X1
- single-engine aircraft were again observed over Erfurt at noon.
2. When cargo gliders landed at the field during late June and early July [REDACTED]
- 25X1 [REDACTED] the gliders extended brake flaps on the upper and lower sides of
- 25X1 their wings. The flaps were located approximately near the middle of the wings
- 25X1 and were lowered while gliding at 3 to 5 meters above the ground. [REDACTED]
3. In late July, trucks [REDACTED] were
- observed entering and leaving the field.
4. Almost every day between 28 June and 11 July, landings were made by up to 27 twin-engine aircraft coming from an easterly direction. During five days of this period an additional 6 aircraft towing cargo gliders were observed at the field. Troops were unloaded from the aircraft and subsequently trucked out toward Erfurt-North.²
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- [REDACTED] Comment. An alert flight of a changing aircraft strength is stationed at
- 25X1 Erfurt-Bindersleben airfield. This flight is mostly detached from the fighter
- 25X1 division in Merseburg, which can be confirmed by the presence of two aircraft
- [REDACTED] previously observed in Merseburg. [REDACTED]

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Comment. On 19 June 1953, a transport unit of about 30 Mi-2s and 6 Il-2s each towing a cargo glider landed at Brandis airfield. This unit participated in an air landing exercise, with army units of the 39th Gds Mot Rifle Div from the Plauen/Ohrdruf area which had arrived by train. During this exercise, the army units were flown from Brandis to Erfurt-Bindersleben. The present report confirms that the first troop air-lift had already been conducted on 22 June. It was assumed previously, that the transport unit flew to Erfurt for the first time on 28 June.

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